



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

## November 2014

### Officers

Willi Kreuzer, *President*    Klaus Raith, *Vice President*  
James Kozlowski, *Treasurer*  
Erika Carneim, *Secretary*  
June Pardue, *Financial Secretary*

Klaus Raith, *Honorary President*

### Directors

Kenneth Blechl    Susan Foster  
Robert Kline    Rita Knapp    Brigitte Niebuhr  
Bill Nurk    John Ott    Henry Pfaff  
Richard Pfaff    Richard Schoeck

## President's Report

The October Meeting has come and gone. The attendance could have been better, since we were nominating new Officers and Board Members for next year. Check the slate posted later in this *Zeitung* and come to the November 20 Meeting to give them your support.

The German American Society needs the support of all its members to move forward and continue to grow and present new ideas. This is your organization. There is a loyal core of members who attend all the meetings and volunteer at our events. But they need your help.

The Volunteer Party was again great and everyone had a good time. I'm sorry that many of you volunteers did not have the opportunity to go to the party and have a little fun and celebrate your accomplishments.

I want to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving now, as I will be away over the holiday.

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

## Vice President's Report

Now that the Oktoberfest Volunteer Party is over, we need to start thinking about next year's Oktoberfest. I'm already working on the dates and will know soon about which weekend we will have in August.

The food lines had been discussed at the Oktoberfest wrap-up meeting as an area that needs to be improved. I am in the process of making arrangements for new grills, which will help alleviate some of the problems we experienced this year.

We will further discuss the above information and other Oktoberfest plans at our next Oktoberfest Committee Meeting which will probably be in February or March of 2015. I'll have the date posted in the *Zeitung* at a later time.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions, please give me a call at 675-8321.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President,*  
*Honorary President & Oktoberfest Chair*

## Treasurer's Report

Please attend the next Monthly Meeting on November 20 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for a complete report on our financial status. I'm hoping to have the audit

done and have more information on the financial outcome at that time.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 622-2658.

Thanks, and see you at the meeting!

JIM KOZLOWSKI, *Treasurer*

## Financial Secretary's Report

There are no new-membership applications to post this month. However, we had two applications from Oktoberfest: Jim Brown from DeRyder, and Tom Roerden from Syracuse, who were voted into membership at the October Monthly Membership Meeting on October 16.

If you have any friends or family members who would like to join our great organization, please have them complete a membership application and send it to me along with their \$25 check made out to The German American Society of CNY. My address is: The German American Society, c/o June Pardue, 692 Idlewood Blvd., Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

Just a reminder: The year is quickly coming to an end, and it's time to think about paying your 2015 membership dues. They are due on January 1, 2015, and need to be paid no later than 1/31/2015 to keep your membership current.

If you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 412-1761.

See you at the November 20 meeting!

JUNE PARDUE, *Financial Secretary*

## From the House Committee

The next event is our **Christmas Party** on Sunday, December 14, at the Liverpool Fire Hall from 2 to 6. Din-

### CLUB MEETINGS

Nov 20    Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6  
Monthly Membership Meeting &  
Election of Officers, 7

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dez 14    Christmas Party, Liverpool Fire Hall, 2 to 6

ner will be ham, veggies, potatoes, and salad. We will be a little short on desserts, so it would really be appreciated if those who can would please bring a dessert.

Admission to the party is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Children ages 10 to 15 are \$5. Children under 10 are free. Please call or e-mail me the ages and names of children from babies to 12 years old by November 25 as Santa will be bringing them a surprise!

Please send reservations with a check or money order made out to the German American Society of CNY by December 7 to: Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205. You may call me at 491-2573 if you have any questions.

We will also be having our annual auction. If you are able to contribute to the auction, it would be great. Donations can be baked goods, crafts, a Christmas item, or anything you wish to bring. The auction is always a lot of fun and helps us raise a few dollars to help offset the cost of the party.

**The Enzian Bavarian Quartet** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. I hope to see you all at the party. Just a reminder: Our activities are open to the public!

If you have any questions about the House Committee or our activities, please give me a call at 491-2573.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

## Sunshine Lady

This month I am happy to report that I did not send out any get-well cards!

Please contact me at 468-4541 to report any illnesses, surgeries, deaths, anniversaries, monumental birthdays, or other events that are deserving of a card.

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *Sunshine Lady*

**From the Editor:** Since I received this information from the Sunshine Lady, I have been informed that she had surgery a few days after our October 16 Monthly Meeting. Mary Pfaff sent Margaretha a card from the German American Society.

## Election of Officers and Board Members

**W**ilhelm Rohrbach headed up the Nominating Committee. The following slate has been proposed:

**Officers:** President—Willi Kreuzer, Vice President—Klaus Raith, Treasurer—Jim Kozlowski, Secretary—Sally Frenza, Financial Secretary—June Pardue.

**Board Members:** Bill Nurk, Ken Blechl, Dick Schoeck, Sue Foster, Bruce Barnes.

The slate was presented at the October 16 Monthly Meeting and will be voted on at the November 20 Monthly Meeting to be held at the Turners at 7 P.M. Please attend this important meeting and show your support for the candidates!

## Goethe and Schiller Monument

It is hard to think about it, but Christmas is not that far off. Why not buy a brick or 2 or 3 at the Goethe and Schiller Monument? What a great Christmas gift that would be for a loved one or organization! A single brick is \$50, 2 bricks are \$75, and 3 bricks are \$100, with each additional brick being

\$30. Please call me at 451-1848 for further details or to get a form. Forms can also be obtained at any German American Society event or online at [www.germanamericanscny.com](http://www.germanamericanscny.com).

As you may recall, bricks have been sold to help offset the cost of the Goethe and Schiller Monument Restoration Project that was a joint venture between the German American Society and the City of Syracuse a few years ago.

If you have any questions about the monument or the bricks, please give me a call.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

## From the Editor

Again want to thank **Henry and Mary Pfaff** for all their help over the years in getting the *Zeitung* folded, labeled, and to the post office, so everyone can read their paper each month. I also thank **Nancy Crast**, who has volunteered to take over the task of mailing the *Zeitung*. Thank you, Nancy!

I would also like to thank everyone who sent me get-well cards while I have been recuperating after my knee replacement in September.

November is upon us, which provides an opportunity to thank our armed forces members both past and present for helping to maintain peace in our unsettled world. Please take advantage of Veteran's Day on November 11 to say Thank You to a vet. Actually, any time you see a vet is a good time to say thanks. You don't need to wait for a special day.

Thanksgiving is the time for us to reflect on the many positive things that have happened to us over the past year and to count our blessings. At many family gatherings before the blessing is said or one morsel of food is touched, each person at the table, including the children, tell one thing that happened over the past year they are thankful for. It really puts a positive edge on the day and makes us all think about our many blessings. We live in a free country; we have a roof over our heads and food to eat, friends and family. And, of course, we have our wonderful German American Society.

Have a wonderful and Blessed Thanksgiving and think about all we have to be thankful for!

Now let's take a look at how Thanksgiving is celebrated in Germany:

Thanksgiving in German Europe has a long tradition, but one that is different in many ways from that in America. First of all, the Germanic *Erntedankfest* ("harvest festival of thanks") is primarily a rural and religious celebration. When it is celebrated in larger cities, it is usually part of a church service and not anything like the big traditional family holiday in America. Although it is celebrated locally and regionally, none of the German-speaking countries observes an official national Thanksgiving holiday on a particular day as in the U.S. However, during harvest time, visitors to German churches will find a plethora of fruits, vegetables, sheaves of grain, and baked goods as decorations around the altars. Visitors to market places and fairgrounds will often find *Erntefeuer* ("harvest fires") and other festivities to celebrate this occasion.

In the regions where wine grapes are grown, *Winzer* (vintners) will present their new wines and allow for a public wine-tasting. A *Bauernmarkt* (farmers' market) gives visitors the chance to purchase the freshest produce available, while the more immediate culinary needs are attended to in a *Festzelt* (party tent), where it can be assumed that some of the famous German beer will be available. For, after all, what is a German celebration without beer!?

Now a little about a children's procession before November 11 called *Sankt Martinstag* ("Saint Martin's Day"). Children walk in procession carrying candlelit lanterns behind "*Sankt Martin*" in his Roman uniform riding *Schimmel*, a white horse. Children of all ages sing songs celebrating the life of Martin of Tours. Long before the lanterns go out, the final verse of one of the most popular songs rings through the German streets:

*Ich geh' mit meiner Laterne,  
Und meine Laterne mit mir.  
Dort oben leuchten die Sterne,  
Hier unten, da leuchten wir.  
Mein Licht is aus,  
Wir geh' nach Haus,  
Rabimmel, rabimmel, rabum.*

The procession often ends up at a huge bonfire, with a snack of a St. Martin *Weckman*, a sweet yeast dough "breadman" with raisin eyes and a clay pipe, with hot chocolate for the children and heated mulled wine for the "older" children. Afterwards, some of the children will go singing door to door to be rewarded for the originality of their lanterns as well as their singing, with fruit, nuts, and other treats.

Do you have a topic you would like me to write about? Or do you have an article you have written and would like to see in print? Just let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

## Members and Friends

### **Sauerbraten Dinner, November 2**

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 873 Dewitt Street, Syracuse, will be holding its **23rd annual Sauerbraten Dinner** on

*Your name could be here! \$15 for Patrons, \$10 for Sponsors, for one year. Send your check made payable to the German-American Society of CNY, attn. Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027*

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Sunday, November 2 from 12 to 3. The cost is \$9 for adults, \$3 for children 6 to 12, and under 6 are free. The cost includes the dinner, coffee, tea, milk, and dessert.

For further information, please contact St. Stephen Lutheran Church at 479-9912.

### **Syracuse Liederverein Chorus**

We really need your help and participation! **Sängerfest** is coming up next year and we would like to compete. But we can't do this without new members. The *Sängerfest* is being held in Utica in 2015 and we would like to be a part of it as we have so many times in the past.

Some members asked why there have been no concerts over the past year. The answer is that we need you to sing with us to help our chorus to take its place again among the award winners!

The Syracuse Liederverein Chorus is always looking for new singers of all ages. You don't need to be able to speak or understand German to join our group. All you need is a love of singing and the desire to preserve a very important part of German culture: singing. The chorus sings not only German songs, but songs in English and sometimes other languages. It's really fun!

We are currently regrouping and hope to start rehearsals again soon. If you would like more information on joining the only German chorus in our area, please contact George at 475-0282. Rehearsals are typically held on Monday evenings at 7 P.M.

### **Gemütlichkeit**

The Syracuse Turners, 619 N. Salina Street, Syracuse, are holding their annual **Gemütlichkeit** on November 7 and 8, starting at 5:30 P.M. This is a fun-filled event that starts off with a Sauerbraten dinner. There are raffles, games of chance, pull tabs, music, and a lot of laughs. Please call the club at 471-9851 for further details.

### **Events at the Utica Männerchor**

Located at 5535 Flanagan Road, Marcy. You may contact the clubhouse at 735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

Contact the *Zeitung!*

**Mail:** Sally Frenza, editor, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

**Phone:** 315-345-6253

**E-mail:** sallyzf@aol.com

### **Deutsche Zeitung**

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